

AMENDMENTS

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-96 (Cancelled)

97. (Previously Presented) A device for storing at least one test strip and dispensing a single test strip at a time, said device comprising:

 a housing comprising:

 (a) a cover; and

 (b) a base configured to store a plurality of test strips, wherein the height of said base is less than the length of each of the test strips, such that a portion of each of the test strips stored in said base extends beyond the height of said base, wherein said device further comprises a surface having a sealing ridge and surface having a sealing groove mateable with said sealing ridge to provide a substantially air and moisture tight seal when said sealing ridge and said sealing groove are mated together.

98. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 97, wherein when said at least one test strip is stored in said device, said height of said base is at least about two thirds of the length of each of the test strips stored in said device.

99. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 97, wherein said base further comprises an urging element for applying a force to the stored test strips when stored in said device.

100. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 99, wherein said urging element is selected from the group consisting of sponge, foam, a spring and a plunger.

101. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 97, wherein said base further comprises a substantially planar, rigid plate for maintaining test strips stored in said device in a suitable orientation for dispensing.

102. (Original) The device according to claim 97, wherein said housing comprises at least one attachment means configured to mate said cover with said base.

103. (Original) The device according to claim 102, wherein said at least one attachment means is at least one of a threading means, an O-ring gasket, a lock and key mechanism, a tensioning clamp and a snap fit mechanism.

104. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 97, wherein said base further comprises a test strip engagement element configured to dispense a single test strip at a time from said housing when at least one test strip is stored in said device.

105. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 104, wherein said test strip engagement element comprises at least one lip extension configured to separate the single test strip from said plurality of stored test strips.

106. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 104, wherein said test strip engagement element comprises at least one grasping means for grasping a single test strip at a time when at least one test strip is stored in said device.

107. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 97, wherein said base further comprises a test strip segregation means.

108. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 107, wherein said test strip segregation means is positioned on a bottom wall of said base and is at least one of an apex, pattern and a protrusion.

109. -110. (Cancelled)

111. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 97, wherein said cover and said base are two, separate pieces.

112. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 97, wherein said device is configured to enable a threadable engagement of said cover to said base.

113. - 144 (Cancelled)